

rule also stipulates that any commercial identifier can be considered by the DoD for use as a DoD unique identification (UID) equivalent if it meets all of the following criteria:

- Contain an enterprise identifier
- Uniquely identify an individual item within an enterprise identifier, product or part number, and
- Have an existing Data Identifier (DI) or Application Identifier (AI) listed in American National Standard (ANS) MH10.8.2, Data Identifier and Application Identifier Standard.

### **RFID Applications**

The myth and reality of commercial RFID technology converge when manufacturers use the tags to monitor movement in a factory environment or distributors can track deliveries and inventory in a warehouse. This ability to monitor items has baseline applications in asset tracking, inventory management and supply chain automation. These are all standard technology applications that can benefit from wireless data collection.

Consumer products manufacturers like Proctor & Gamble Co., Johnson & Johnson, Kimberly-Clark and Kraft Foods Inc., focus on the RFID benefit of keeping products on shelves as a contributor to profit margins and evaluating new product success or failure. For DoD, implementation of RFID reduces inventory processing time, and improves asset visibility and maintenance of materiel. Thus within the DoD environment this technology will experience a rapid acceptance.

A cautionary note is that as RFID is introduced into the commercial and consumer market, there may be social issue debates about privacy rights and technical options for tagged products.

Efforts are underway to reach international associations and increase involvement by international ministries of defense. The following countries have been engaged to participate in the proposed system: United Kingdom, Canada, Republic of Korea, Australia, France, Sweden, Italy, Germany and NATO Allied Committees.

A DoD-wide application called Wide Area Work Flow-Receipts and Acceptance (WAWF-RA) is proposed to eliminate paper from the receipt and acceptance process. The goal is to enable authorized Defense personnel and contractors to create invoices and receiving reports, and access all contract related documents electronically.

### ***Navy and Marine Corps RFID Applications***

The Navy and Marine Corps are conducting extensive shipboard testing to determine whether emissions from RFID tags will interfere with ships systems or whether ships systems will affect the function of the RFID system. The tests successfully used RFID tags to automatically track material movement around the ship. Proof of concept projects underway at the Navy Automatic Identification Technology (AIT) Project Office include:

RFID Early Entry Deployment Support Kit (EEDSK): RFID capability anywhere in the world within a week, requiring no permanent RFID infrastructure.

Smart Stores: RFID Inter-ship stores and inventory tracking system.

Advanced Technology Ordnance Surveillance (ATOS): Real-time surveillance and inventory updates for ordnance.

DoD RFID initiatives will invariably impact Navy and Marine Corps information technology. The expanded scope of logistics management enabled by RFID will assist the warfighter, the command and control elements, and the essential support team members.

The impending change in DON business processes due to RFID adoption is not likely to be disruptive, despite the scale of the effort, because at critical stages the technical and policy decisions embraced a standard shared in the commercial world.

Contact the DON Spectrum Team at [DONSPECTRUMTEAM@navy.mil](mailto:DONSPECTRUMTEAM@navy.mil).

## **New DoD Enterprise Software Initiative Agreements**

Department of Defense Enterprise Software Initiative (ESI) Blanket Purchase Agreements (BPAs) were recently established for Systems Integration Services with Accenture, BearingPoint, Computer Sciences Corp., Deloitte and IBM.

The BPAs include the procurement of configuration, integration, installation, data conversion, training, testing, object development, interface development, business process reengineering, project management, risk management, quality assurance and other services for commercial-off-the-shelf (COTS) software.

Benefits include a streamlined acquisition process, standard terms and conditions, fixed-priced services tied to proven methodology, and reduced risk by following proven methodology and best practices. Estimated annual cost avoidance to the DoD is \$160 million or \$800 million over five years. These BPAs are open to all DoD Components, the U.S. Coast Guard, the Intelligence Community and authorized Defense contractors.

This groundbreaking program marks the first time that the DoD ESI negotiated technology services on a DoD-wide basis, and presents an opportunity to reduce the government's average implementation-to-software cost ratio, currently at 15 to 1, toward the industry average of 5 to 1. In addition to achieving substantial cost avoidance, these BPAs provide a performance-based approach with factors tied to the customer's key business priorities and fixed-priced configurations.

Finally, these agreements will contribute toward achieving the Navy's net-centric vision of Web services and support the Navy's Sea Enterprise initiative by the deployment of enterprise applications.

Go to <http://www.itec-direct.navy.mil> for more information..

